APPENDIX E — REAP-FLEX AND TRANSFERABILITY

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REAP-Flex Transferability

Accounting for REAP-Flex and Transferability

REAP-FLEX

REAP-Flex is the term that the U.S. Department of Education has given to the "alternative uses of funds" authority under Title VI, Part B, Subpart 1 of the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, the Small Rural School Achievement (SRSA) program. This authority provides an eligible local education agency (LEA) with greater flexibility in using specific formula grant funds (the LEA's applicable funding) to support local activities under a number of Federal programs in order for the LEA to address local academic needs more effectively. REAP-Flex is intended to assist an LEA to ensure that all students meet academic achievement standards as measured by the definition of adequate yearly progress. Thus, in determining how best to use its applicable funding under REAP-Flex, an LEA should consider whether the planned activities would assist in meeting AYP.

LEAs eligible to participate in the SRSA program must:

- Have an ADA (average daily attendance) of less than 600 students or serve only schools located in counties with a population density of less than 10 persons per square mile; and
- Serve only schools that have an NCES school locale code of 7 or 8 (assigned by the U.S. Dept. of Education's National Center for Education Statistics) or be located in an area of the state defined as rural by a governmental agency of the state.

Each spring the OPI provides enrollment and locale code information to the Federal Department of Education to verify SRSA eligibility.

One hundred percent (100%) of the funds allocated in the following programs (applicable funding) may be flexed:

- Title II, Part A Improving Teacher Quality
- Title II, Part D Educational Technology State Grants*
- Title IV, Part A Safe and Drug-Free Schools*
- Title V, Part A Innovative Programs*

(* NOTE: Federal funding is not currently available under Titles II-D, IV-A, and V-A.)

Under the REAP-Flex program, an LEA must spend its "applicable funding" on local activities authorized under one or more of the authorized programs, but does not have to meet the set-aside requirements of those programs. Participation in the REAP-Flex

program does not relieve the LEA of its responsibility to provide for equitable services for private school students and teachers under the flexed Titles.

When entering grant applications on the E-Grants system, applicants will be able to view the funding amounts and REAP-Flex options for which they are eligible. All funds are REAP-Flexed at the time of application.

Funds are requested and reported fiscally under the Title from which they were originally allocated, but the grant activities are reported programmatically under the Title for which they were used.

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Title VI, Part A, Subpart 2, of the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 allows any LEA not identified for improvement or corrective action to transfer up to 50% of the funds allocated to it from identified programs into other specific programs.

Funds may be transferred from the following programs:

- Title II, Part A Improving Teacher Quality
- Title II, Part D Educational Technology State Grants*
- Title IV, Part A Safe and Drug-Free Schools*
- Title V, Part A Innovative Programs*

(*NOTE: Federal funding is not currently available under Titles II-D, IV-A, and V-A.)

Funds may be transferred into any of the four programs noted above as well as into Title I, Part A. Funds may **not** be transferred out of Title I, Part A. Funds transferred into Title I, Part A may not be transferred out of Title I, Part A later.

An LEA that has been identified as being in need of improvement may transfer up to 30% of the allocated funds in Titles II-A, II-D, IV-A and V-A. Title I-A funds may not be transferred; this applies to both original Title I funds and funds transferred into Title I. The transferred funds may only be used to supplement school improvement activities or for improvement activities under Title I, Section 1116(c).

An LEA in corrective action may not transfer funds.

Funds transferred under Title VI, Part A, Subpart 2 are subject to all of the rules of the receiving program, including any statutory set-asides. Since each program covered by the transferability authority is required to provide equitable participation of private schools, timely and meaningful consultation with private school officials must be held prior to transfer.

When entering grant applications on E-Grants, applicants will be able to view the funding amounts and REAP-Flex options for which they are eligible. Funds are REAP-Flexed at the time of application.

Funds are requested and reported fiscally under the Title from which they were originally allocated, but reported programmatically under the Title for which they were used.

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When OPI approves an eligible subgrantee to REAP-Flex or transfer funds, the OPI combines the funds with the allocation in the program into which funds were REAP-Flexed or transferred. For that point on, the subgrantee will account for the money under the program into which funds were REAP-Flexed or transferred.

For example:

If OPI approves a subgrantee's application to REAP-Flexed or transfer 100% of the Title II, Part A allocation of \$5,000 into a Title I, Part A, project which had an allocation of \$35,000, then the total allocation in the approved Title I, Part A project would be \$40,000. The grant award under Title I, Part A would be \$40,000. The grant award under Title II, Part A would be zero.

The Clerk/Business Manager must request the combined funds under Title I, Part A. Cash receipts must be coded as Title I, Part receipts. There would not be cash requests under Title II, Part A.

Expenditures of the combined allocation amount would be recorded as expenditures (i.e., using the expenditure program code) of Title I, Part A.

The subgrantee would be responsible for submitting close-out reports under Title I, Part A. Close-out reports specific to Title II, Part A would not be required.

On the E-Grants system, the subgrantee will see the amount of money sent for the combined project under each federal program. The audit report schedule of federal financial assistance must report the amount received under each program separately.

Call the OPI School Finance Division at (406) 444-1960 if you need information or assistance.